

WE CLAIM:

1. A substantially liquid-impermeable film that is extendible in a cross-direction to a stretched width that is at least 25% greater than an unstretched width upon application of a stretching force;

the film having a first water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours coinciding with the unstretched width;

the film having a second water vapor transmission rate which is at least 225% of the first water vapor transmission rate and not less than about 4000 grams/m²-24 hours, coinciding with a stretched width that is 25% greater than the unstretched width.

2. The film of Claim 1, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least 250% of the first water vapor transmission rate.

3. The film of Claim 1, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least 300% of the first water vapor transmission rate.

4. The film of Claim 1, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least about 5500 grams/m²-24 hours.

5. The film of Claim 1, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least about 7000 grams/m²-24 hours.

6. The film of Claim 1, having a stretched length in a machine direction that is 1.1-7.0 times an original, unstretched length, wherein the first water vapor transmission rate exists at the stretched length.

7. The film of Claim 6, wherein the stretched length is 1.5-6.0 times the unstretched length.

8. The film of Claim 6, wherein the stretched length is 2.5-5.0 times the unstretched length.

9. The film of Claim 1, comprising at least one layer which includes a single-site catalyzed olefin polymer, a Ziegler-Natta catalyzed olefin polymer, and a particulate filler.

10. The film of Claim 9, wherein the layer includes about 10-55% by volume of the filler and about 45-90% by volume of total polymer, the total polymer including about 10-90% by weight of the single-site catalyzed olefin polymer and about 10-90% by weight of the Ziegler-Natta catalyzed olefin polymer.

11. The film of Claim 10, wherein the layer includes about 15-45% by volume of the filler and about 55-85% by volume of total polymer.

12. The film of Claim 10, wherein the layer includes about 25-40% by volume particulate filler and about 60-75% by volume of total polymers.

13. The film of Claim 10, wherein the total polymer includes about 25-75% by weight of the single-site catalyzed olefin polymer and about 25-75% by weight of the Ziegler-Natta catalyzed olefin polymer.

14. The film of Claim 10, wherein the total polymer includes about 30-60% by weight of the single-site catalyzed olefin polymer and about 40-70% by weight of the Ziegler-Natta catalyzed olefin polymer.

15. The film of Claim 1, comprising at least one layer which includes a lower density olefin polymer, a higher density olefin polymer, and a particulate filler.

16. The film of Claim 15, wherein the lower density olefin polymer has a density of 0.870 grams/cm³ to less than 0.900 grams/cm³ and the higher density olefin polymer has a density of about 0.900-0.935 grams/cm³.

17. The film of Claim 15, wherein the layer includes about 10-55% by volume of the filler and about 45-90% by volume of total polymer, the total polymer including about 10-90% by weight of the lower density olefin polymer and about 10-90% by weight of the higher density olefin polymer.

18. The film of Claim 17, wherein the layer includes about 15-45% by volume of the filler and about 55-85% by volume of total polymer.

19. The film of Claim 17, wherein the layer includes about 25-40% by volume particulate filler and about 60-75% by volume of total polymer.

20. The film of Claim 17, wherein the total polymer includes about 25-75% by weight of the lower density olefin polymer and about 25-75% by weight of the higher density olefin polymer.

21. The film of Claim 17, wherein the total polymer includes about 30-60% by weight of the lower density olefin polymer and about 40-70% by weight of the higher density olefin polymer.

22. The film of Claim 15, wherein the lower density olefin polymer comprises very low density polyethylene and the higher density olefin polymer comprises linear low density polyethylene.

23. The film of Claim 22, wherein the lower density olefin polymer is single-site catalyzed and the higher density olefin polymer is Ziegler-Natta catalyzed.

24. A substantially liquid-impermeable laminate that is extendible in a cross-direction to a stretched width that is at least 25% greater than an unstretched width upon application of a stretching force;

the laminate comprising a film and a nonwoven web;

the laminate having a first water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours coinciding with the unstretched width;

the laminate having a second water vapor transmission rate which is at least 225% of the first water vapor transmission rate and not less than about 4000 grams/m²-24 hours, coinciding with a stretched width that is 25% greater than the unstretched width.

25. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least 250% of the first water vapor transmission rate.

26. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least 300% of the first water vapor transmission rate.

27. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least about 5500 grams/m²-24 hours.

28. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the second water vapor transmission rate is at least about 7000 grams/m²-24 hours.

29. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the film comprises at least one layer which includes a single-site catalyzed olefin polymer, a Ziegler-Natta catalyzed olefin polymer, and a particulate filler.

30. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the film comprises at least one layer which includes a lower density olefin polymer, a higher density olefin polymer, and a particulate filler.

31. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the film comprises at least one layer which includes a single-site catalyzed polyethylene, a Ziegler-Natta catalyzed polyethylene, and a particulate filler.

32. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the film comprises at least one layer which includes a very low density polyethylene, a linear low density polyethylene, and a particulate filler.

33. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web is neck-stretched to cause elongation in a machine direction and narrowing in its cross direction prior to being laminated to the film.

34. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises fibers made from an extendible polymer.

35. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises crimped fibers.

36. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a spunbond web.

37. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a meltblown web.

38. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a bonded carded web.

39. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises an air laid web.

40. The laminate of Claim 24, wherein the nonwoven web comprises more than one layer.

41. A garment comprising at least one substantially liquid-impermeable laminate including a film and a nonwoven web, the laminate having a stretched width that is at least 25% greater than an unstretched width upon application of a stretching force;

the laminate having a first vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours coinciding with the unstretched width;

the laminate having a second water vapor transmission rate which is at least 225% of the first water vapor transmission rate and not less than about 4000 grams/m²-24 hours, coinciding with a stretched width that is 25% greater than the unstretched width.

42. The garment of Claim 41, wherein the laminate comprises at least part of a backsheet.

43. The garment of Claim 42, comprising a diaper.

44. The garment of Claim 42, comprising a training pant.

45. The garment of Claim 42, comprising swim wear.

46. The garment of Claim 42, comprising an absorbent underpant.
47. The garment of Claim 42, comprising an adult incontinence article.
48. The garment of Claim 42, comprising a feminine hygiene article.
49. The garment of Claim 42, comprising a medical protective garment.
50. The garment of Claim 42, comprising an industrial protective garment.
51. A substantially liquid-impermeable breathable film that is extendible in a cross-direction to a stretched width that is at least 25% greater than an unstretched width upon application of a stretching force;
- the film comprising a filled layer which includes about 10-55% by volume of a particulate filler and about 45-90% by volume of total polymer;
- the total polymer including about 10-90% by weight of a single-site catalyzed very low density polyethylene and about 10-90% by weight of a Ziegler-Natta catalyzed linear low density polyethylene;

52. The film of Claim 51, wherein the filled layer comprises about 15-45% by volume of the filler and about 55-85% by volume of the total polymer.

53. The film of Claim 51, wherein the filled layer comprises about 25-40% by volume particulate filler and about 60-75% by volume of the total polymer.

54. The film of Claim 51, wherein the total polymer comprises about 25-75% by weight of the very low density polyethylene and about 25-75% by weight of the linear low density polyethylene.

55. The film of Claim 51, wherein the total polymer comprises about 30-60% by weight of the very low density polyethylene and about 40-70% by weight of the linear low density polyethylene.

56. A laminate comprising the film of Claim 51 and a nonwoven web.